

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the specification and claims as amended in this Preliminary Amendment for examination purposes. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicants have amended the specification to refer to the PCT application and Japanese priority case. Applicants wish to inform the Office that the English language specification filed August 11, 2006, which included claims 1-21, was defective. The International Application as published in the Japanese language contains 13 claims (filed with application on August 11, 2006). Applicants ask the Office to use the translation of the International Application filed herewith and the 13 claims cited therein.

In addition, Applicants have introduced claim amendments based on claims 1-13 of the translated International Application. The claim amendments remove multiple dependencies. Thus, original claims 3-13 have been introduced as new claims 14-31. No prohibited new matter has been introduced by these amendments to the application and to the claims as the amendments are supported by the original claims and specification. Applicants reserve the right to file a Continuation or Divisional application on the subject matter cancelled by way of this amendment.

CONCLUSION

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0573. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 23, 2007

CUSTOMER NO. 55694

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